

Attachment A
to
TCS 3626/58

PROPOSAL FOR UTILIZATION OF TALENT
MATERIAL IN CARTOGRAPHIC PRODUCTION

1. In late 1956, the Utilization Advisory Board (UAB) appointed a subcommittee composed of representatives from the mapping agencies to evaluate community requirements for the utilization of TALENT materials in cartographic production. The subcommittee concluded that the UAB should approve in principle the cartographic use of TALENT material whenever possible, and so recommended in a report to the UAB dated 21 November 1956. The UAB, in accepting the recommendation, asked that each agency report back to it at such time as specific production system was developed. The purpose of this proposal is to outline the use of TALENT material by the CIA in the production of selected USSR city plans.

2. By memorandum dated 23 July 1958, the Cartographic Division, ORR received a request to prepare detailed plans of 75 selected cities in the USSR. Two types of maps were specified: (a) for 46 cities, a map containing essential planimetric detail only (e.g. streams, roads, railroads, built-up area, etc.), in two versions, one with place names and one without (Att. B); (b) for 30 cities, a map providing a dense overlay of cultural detail, including place names, functional divisions, urban features of orientation or target value (Att. C).* As a means of assuring increased utilization of the town plan program by other intelligence activities, it is planned to produce an additional version of each of the two maps described above which will show central built-up areas at increased scale.

3. A prototype map (4 versions) has been completed and is herewith presented for consideration (Att. D,E,F,G). The following is a resume of the production system involved:

a. Project personnel - 3 cartographers and 2 geographers, all TALENT indoctrinated, worked as a special task force.

b. Use of TALENT material - the essential planimetric frame of the map was derived from TALENT and, when available, collateral of varying quality was also employed. Cultural detail,

* One city, Omsk, appears on both Attachments B, C.

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derived from all sources but predominately from collateral, was then added to the planimetric base, as needed.

c. Security control - compilation work utilizing TALENT material was performed solely within the TALENT Control System. The resulting planimetric manuscript map was transferred to a non-TALENT area for normal final drafting and reproduction.

d. Protection of source - the following steps were taken to disguise the use of TALENT material:

(1) Each map carries a list of collateral map sources used. In the case of the pilot town plan (Alma Ata, USSR), these sources were many and were of good quality. In addition to the map sources cited, collateral included 171 [redacted] reports, 150-175 G-2 interrogation reports, 19 [redacted] Program reports, 1952 and 1956 Alma Ata telephone books, material published by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, "Treasure Island" translation reports, several traveler reports, clandestine reports, a Spanish repatriate report, and a 1950-52 Russian book on Alma Ata.

25X1A 25X1A

(2) Maps that carry no place names are classified SECRET, Limited. They will be disseminated only to CIA operational personnel for use in operational planning and reporting. All other versions will receive normal SECRET distribution.

(3) Only TALENT-cleared personnel were associated with the maps in their formative stages. Uncleared cartographic drafting personnel who performed necessary final drafting tasks are mature, Top-Secret-cleared employees who are frequently assigned to sensitive projects that do not permit disclosure of specific source materials.

4. Inherent in this project is the exploitation of TALENT material in broad detail, with the following built-in protection characteristics:

a. A very small percentage of the recipients of a given city plan are qualified to recognize that it is of unusually high quality and hence the product of other than the usual source material. Of this group, a similarly small percentage is qualified to recognize that the map embodies a great improvement over previous intelligence for the city covered. However, the bulk of this last group are specialists who already have been granted TALENT clearances.

b. In dealing with non-cleared specialists, as well as with the merely curious, several plausible explanations exist which would

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permit the compilation to be possible. These include:

- (1) Intensive all-source material.
 - (2) Clandestinely-obtained material, such as engineer plans emanating from Soviet officials. 25X1A
 - (3) Intensive exploitation of [REDACTED], 500 MIG, and Spanish repatriate interrogees (it is well established that a very high quality city map can be achieved through special mass interrogations).
 - (4) Use of closely-held aerial photography that has been obtained clandestinely.
5. In cases where controlling factors are markedly different from those described herein (mainly when collateral is unavailable) the city plan concerned either will be disseminated under CHESS classification or further assistance, including requests for fabricated documents, will be solicited from the UAB.

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